

Appln No. 10/760194
Amdt. Dated: December 15, 2006
Response to Office Action of October 3, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of October 3, 2006 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the flexible printed circuit boards have connecting portions which are configured to slot into slotted connection ports of the drive electronics printed circuit board so that the printhead integrated circuits are aligned with the respective controller. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 15, lines 15-26 and page 17, lines 34-39 of the present specification; and dependent claims 2-6 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-6 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by previously Silverbrook '082 in view of newly cited Silverbrook (US 6,439,908), for at least the following reasons.

As discussed above, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the flexible PCBs 80 have the connecting portions 81 which are configured to slot into the slotted connectors 98 of the PCBs 90 supporting the controller of the drive electronics 100 so that the printhead integrated circuits 51 are aligned with the respective controller (see page 15, lines 15-26, page 17, lines 34-39 and Figs. 6, 18A and 18B of the present application).

On the other hand, in Silverbrook '082 the flexible PCBs 58 of the printhead modules 46 are merely connected to the PCBs 42 by the assembly of the channel 62 supporting the modules and the chassis molding 64 supporting the PCBs 42 (see col. 3, lines 31-62, col. 9, lines 1-8, col. 10, lines 32-35 and Figs. 8 and 9 of Silverbrook '082), and Silverbrook '908 merely discloses the data connector 66 for connecting the printhead chips 18 of the printhead modules 12 to external data and power (see col. 6, lines 41-45, col. 7, lines 16-23 and Figs. 3 and 7 of Silverbrook '908).

Further, there is no motivation from the disclosures of Silverbrook '082 and '908 for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosed connections arrangements to arrive at the connection arrangement recited in amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-6 dependent therefrom.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

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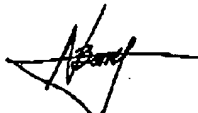
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Very respectfully,

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